

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A self-contained thermal transfer label apparatus including a release stock supporting a release coating and, over the release coating, a first adhesive coating and a face stock. The face stock is severed into labels aligned in sequence along the face stock. An ultraviolet light curable second adhesive is disposed on portions of the upper surface of the face stock exterior to the labels. A donor ribbon strip is disposed in registry with the face stock, the donor ribbon strip providing a thermal transfer coating in engaged contact with the second
10 adhesive and adjacent to the labels. The thermal transfer coating has a surface tension greater than a surface tension of the second adhesive so that it can be removed, taking that portion of the adhesive in contact with it. The donor ribbon strip is severed exterior to the labels enabling removal of peripheral portions of the donor ribbon strip while leaving further portions of the donor ribbon strip over the labels for later marking the labels. With the
15 further portions of the donor strip removed, the labels may be peeled away for use.